Photo Album

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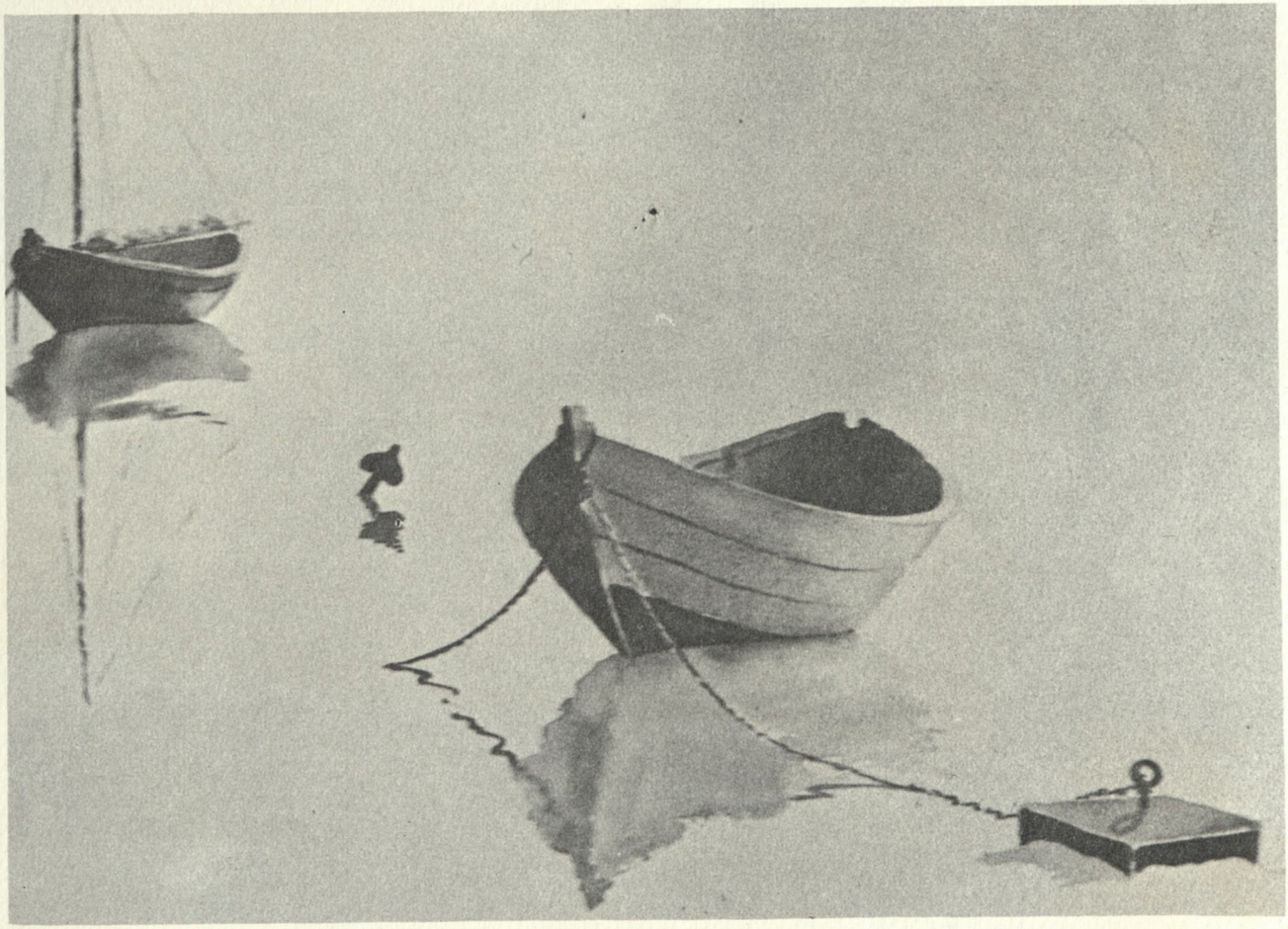
53 B

Snapshot Contest Winners

CLASS C—February Aglow. Paul L. Yeager, 89 Keeney Ave., West Hartford.

Snapshot Contest Winners

CLASS C—February Aglow. Paul L. Yeager, 89 Keeney Ave., West Hartford.



"Dories." Painted by Doris Ricker Beer. Photo by Louis S. Davidson.

The House of the Artists

Gordon P. 1950

With The Cooperation Of

THE HOUSE OF THE ARTISTS

700 Royal Street

La Louisiane

presents

The watercolors of

Doris and Richard Beer

NOW ON DISPLAY IN THE RECEPTION HALL

1951

The Ruth Coulter Galleries

and

The Eastman Bolton Studios

present

AN EXHIBITION OF WATER COLOR PAINTINGS
of OLD NANTUCKET

by

RICHARD C. BEER and DORIS RIKER BEER

Saturday Afternoon, May 18, 1940

TEA 4 to 7

FREE PARKING
Rear of Cleveland Club

1940

These paintings for sale at $35 each. Arrangements can be made through your waiter.

The Old French Market

Maison La Branche

Slave Quarters,
Beauregard House

Pirates Alley

Balconies on St. Peter

Little Theatre

Pirates Alley
From Cathedral Garden

Jackson Square

Maison de Ville

Royal At St. Peter

Lonely Boat

Lonely Beach

Beer's Work Is On Exhibit Here

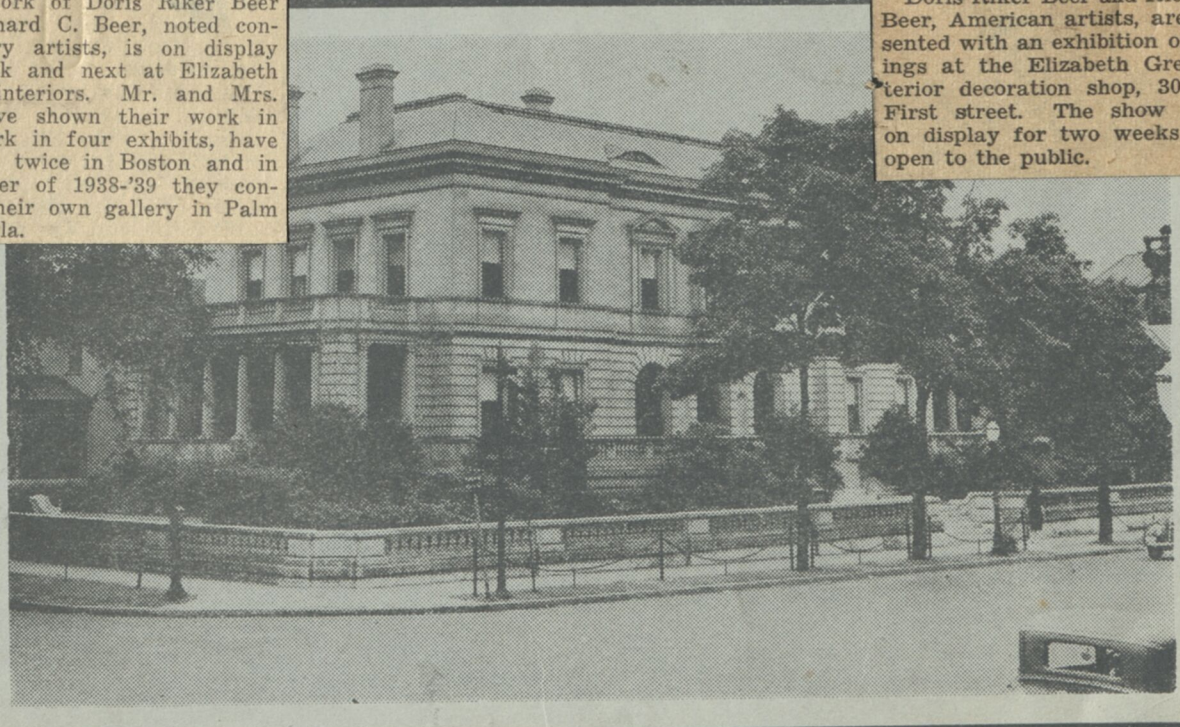
1940

The work of Doris Riker Beer and Richard C. Beer, noted contemporary artists, is on display this week and next at Elizabeth Greene interiors. Mr. and Mrs. Beer have shown their work in New York in four exhibits, have exhibited twice in Boston and in the winter of 1938-'39 they conducted their own gallery in Palm Beach, Fla.

Painting Show Open to Public

1940

Doris Riker Beer and Richard C. Beer, American artists, are represented with an exhibition of paintings at the Elizabeth Greene interior decoration shop, 308 West First street. The show will be on display for two weeks and is open to the public.

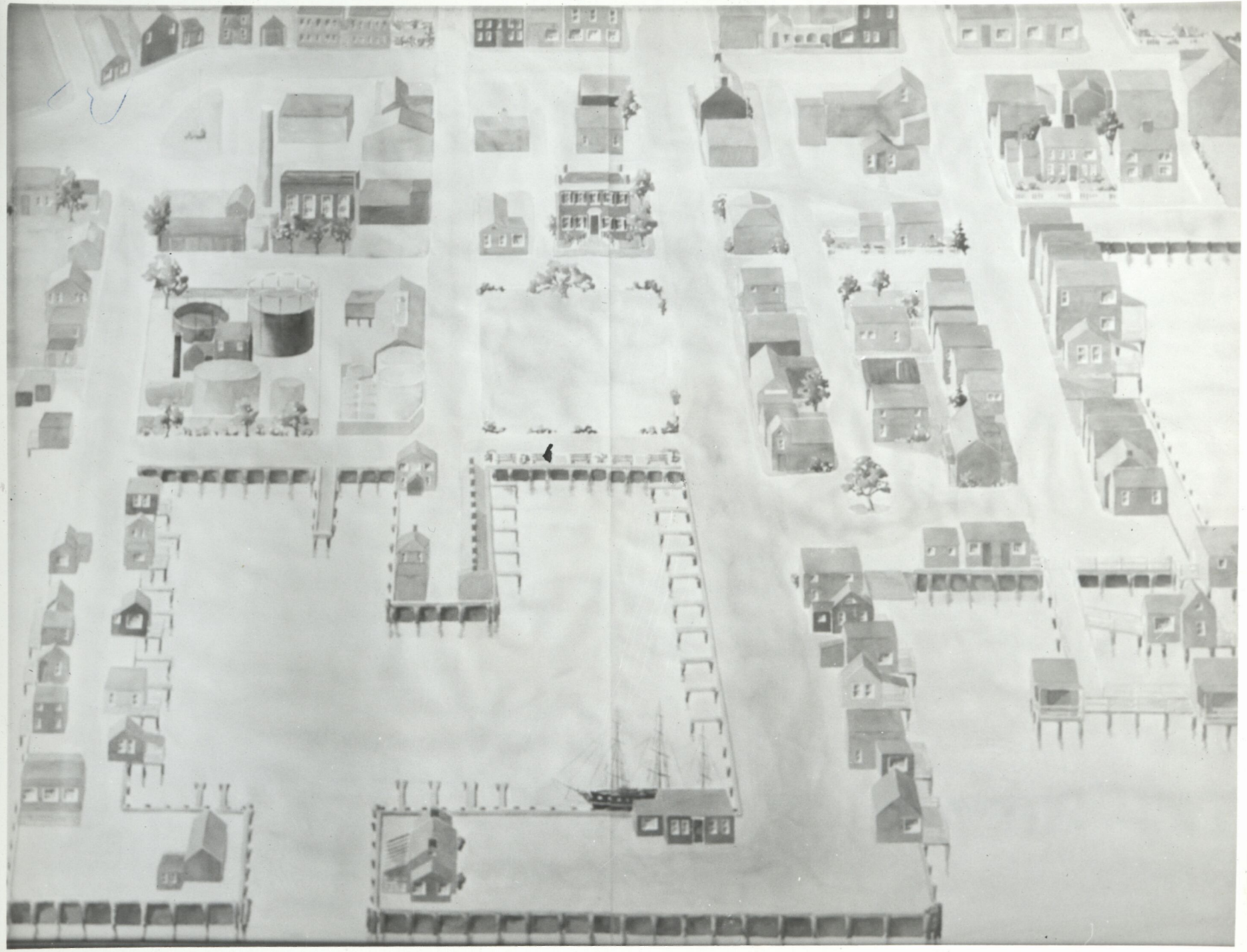


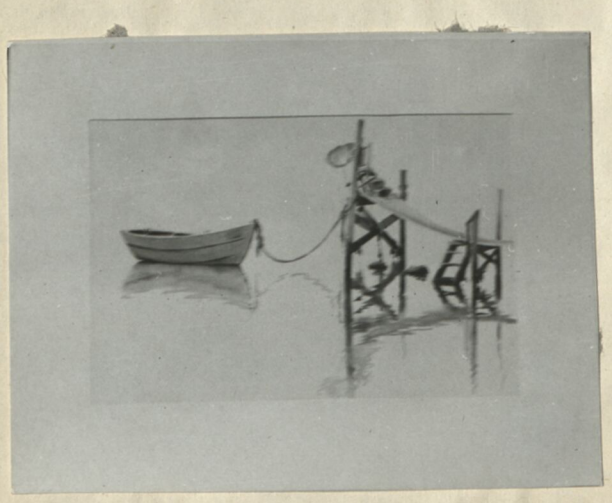
JUNE 1940

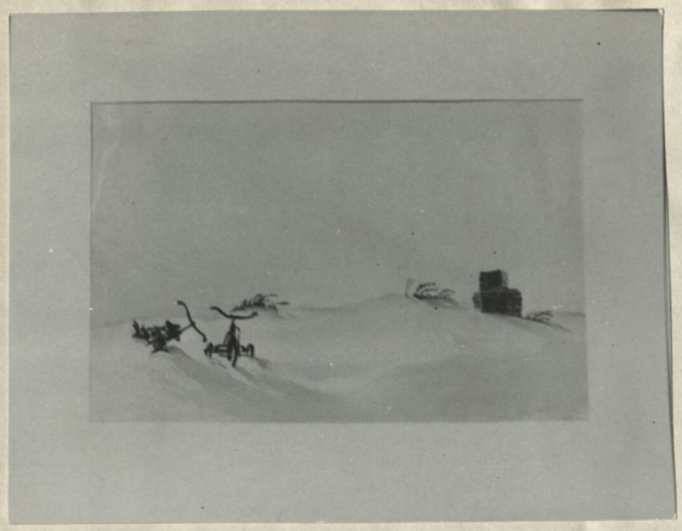
1943

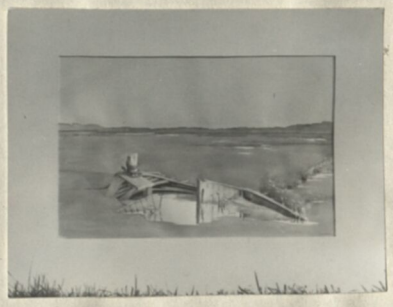
MRS. GEORGE YERXES . NANTUCKET . MASS. JAN. 1943

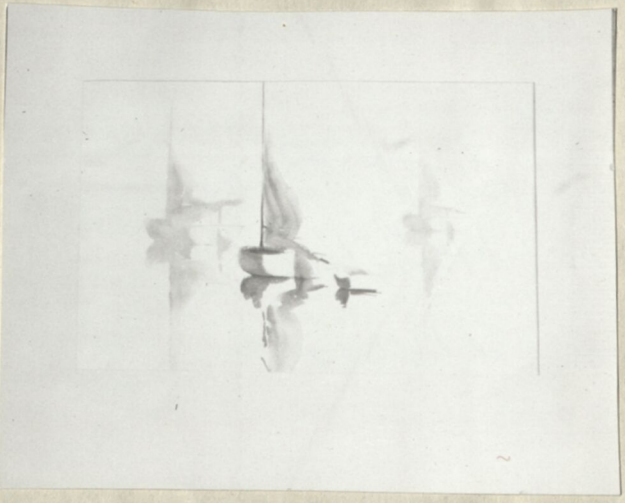
"Moilii Fishing," by Doris Riker Beer, is among exhibits in a one-man show of

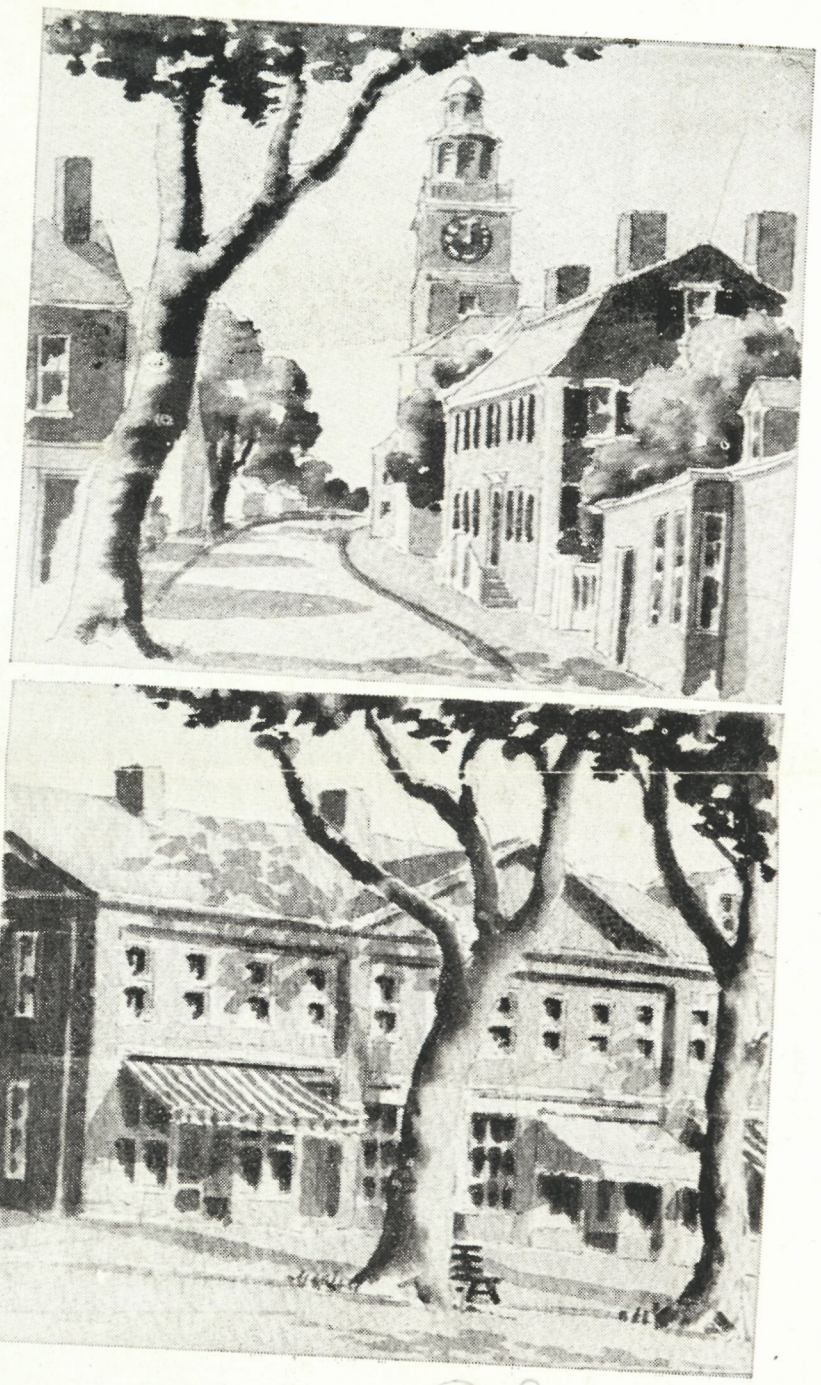




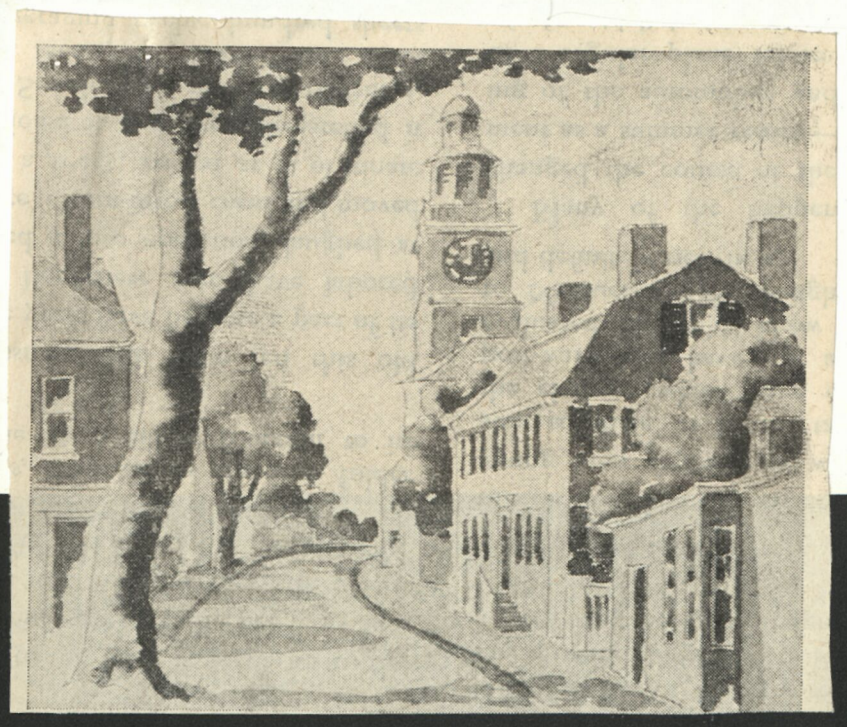


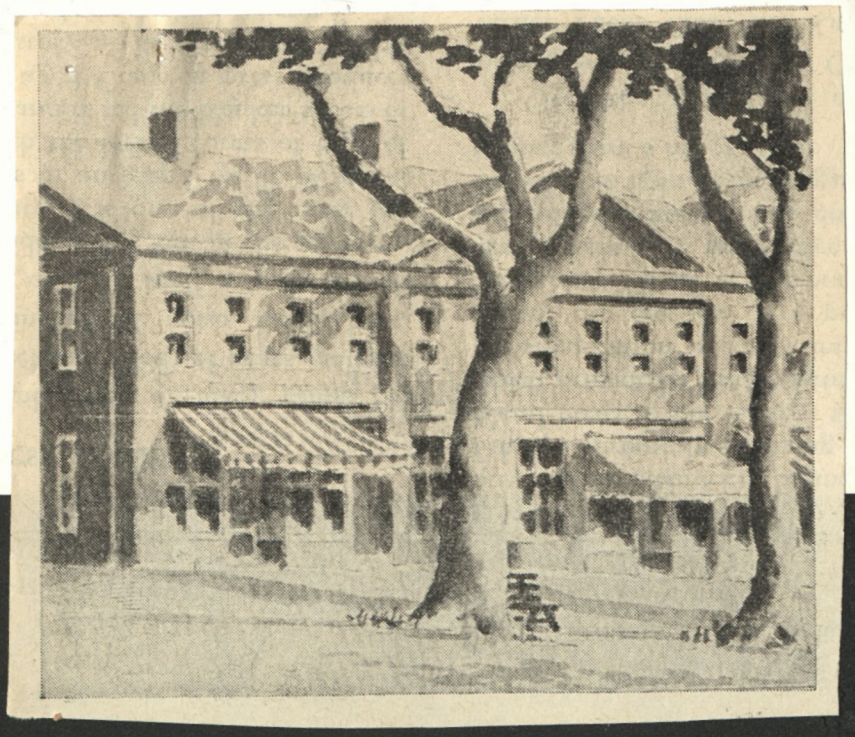






© Dyke Hoen





YANKEE SEA SCHOOL
of
NANTUCKET

★ OLD SOUTH WHARF ★

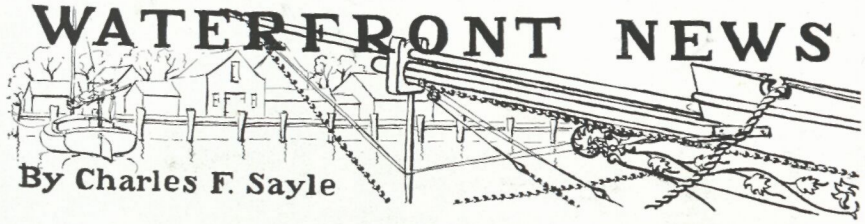
YANKEE SEA SCHOOL
of
NANTUCKET

★ OLD SOUTH WHARF ★

AIRPORT NOTES

By Art Orleans

WATERFRONT NEWS

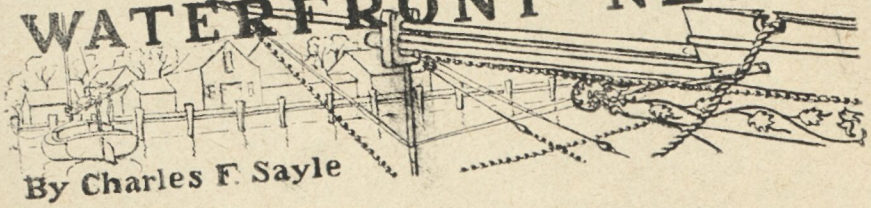


By Charles F. Sayle

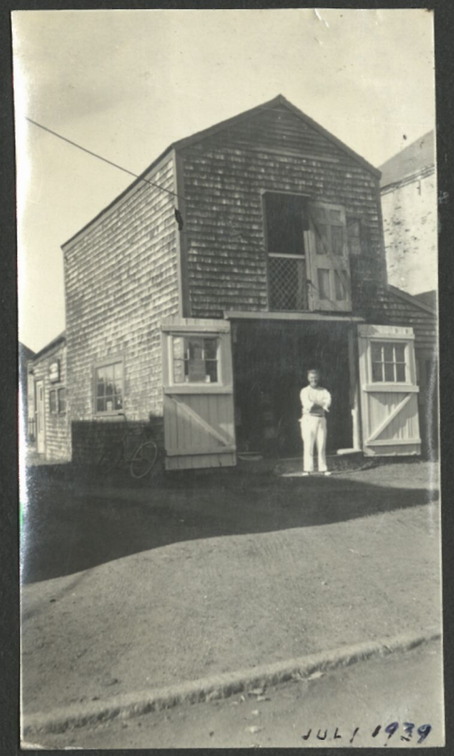
AIRPORT NOTES

By Art Orleans

WATERFRONT NEWS



By Charles F. Sayle


JULY 1939

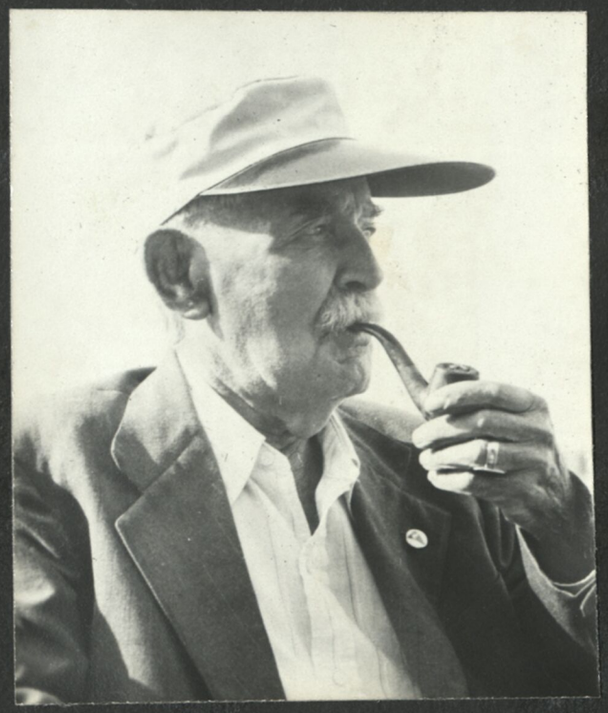
1941

JULY 1939

D. & R. Beer
STUDIO

THE SKIPPER

Studio



WATER COLORS
by
D. and R. BEER
and the
New Orleans Miniatures

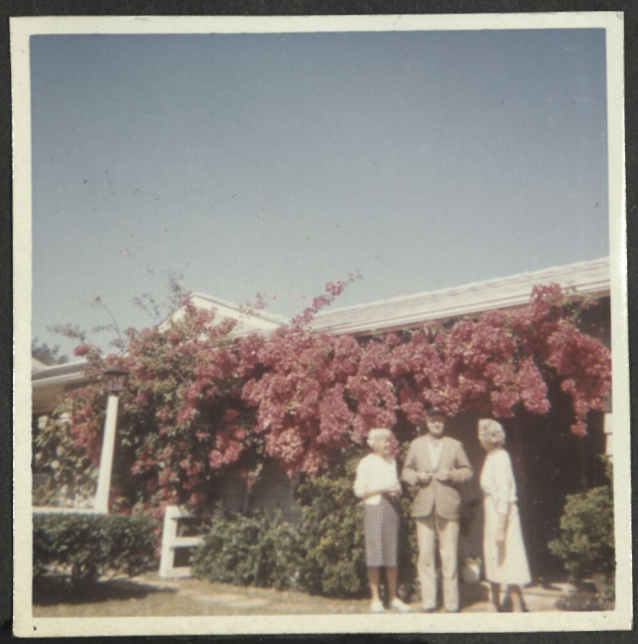
Nantucket
Water Colors
Studio Upstairs
NANTUCKET
MINIATURES

DG-83486

D.&R.Beer
STUDIO

HUSKY SHAW
HUSKY SHAW

VENUS



COLOR
TRANSPARENCIES

20

24
24

22

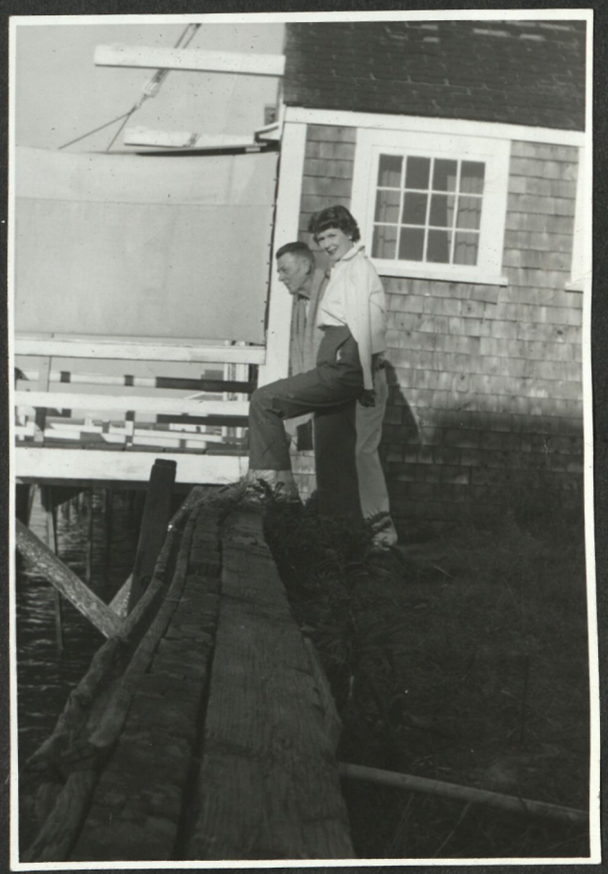
19

D. R. Beer
STUDIO

Associated Press

SHORE DINNER: Fishermen of Whitby, Yorkshire, England, are not required to clean the quayside after a catch of herring has been cut and prepared for market. These ever-present sea gulls—wheeling, swooping and scrambling—eat all that is left behind.

WHARF RAT PARTY – 1955



WHARFHEAD
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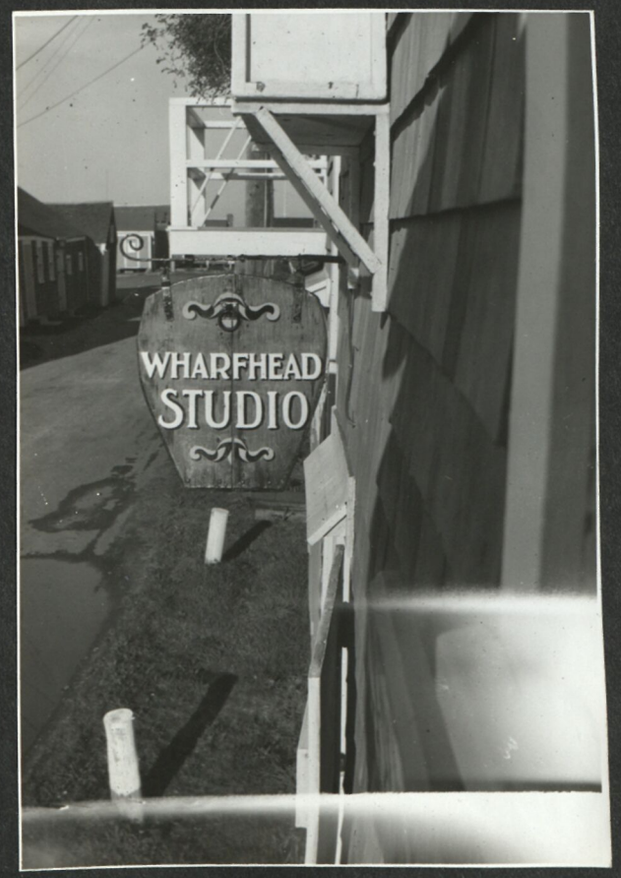
10-12 · 3-6
WHARFHEAD
STUDIO
OPEN

WHARFHEAD STUDIO

WHARFHEAD
STUDIO

WHARFHEAD STUDIO


WHARFHEAD
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D. & R. BEER
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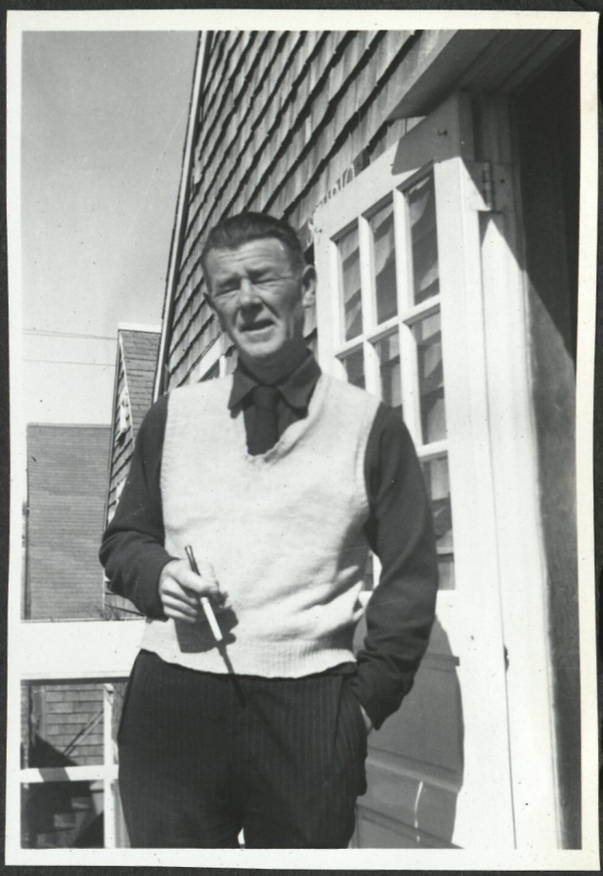
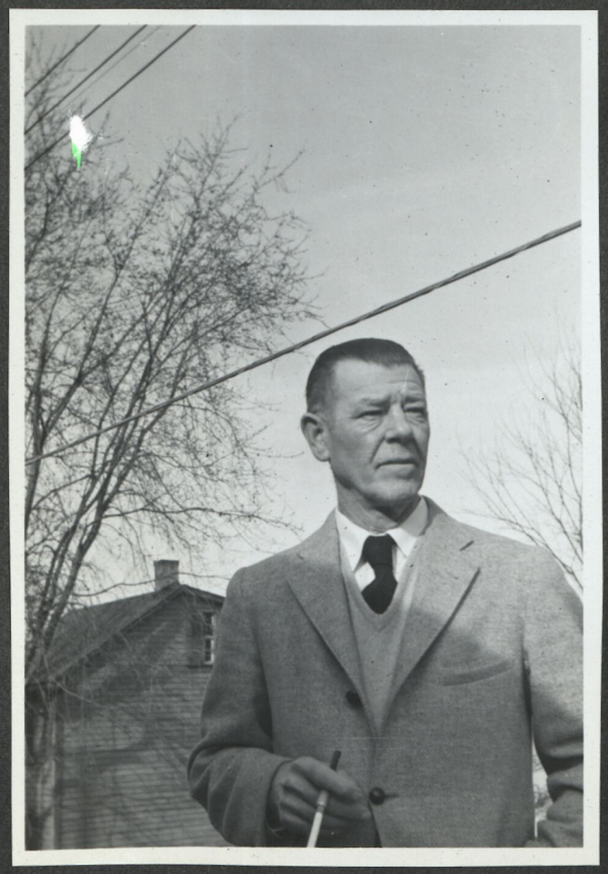
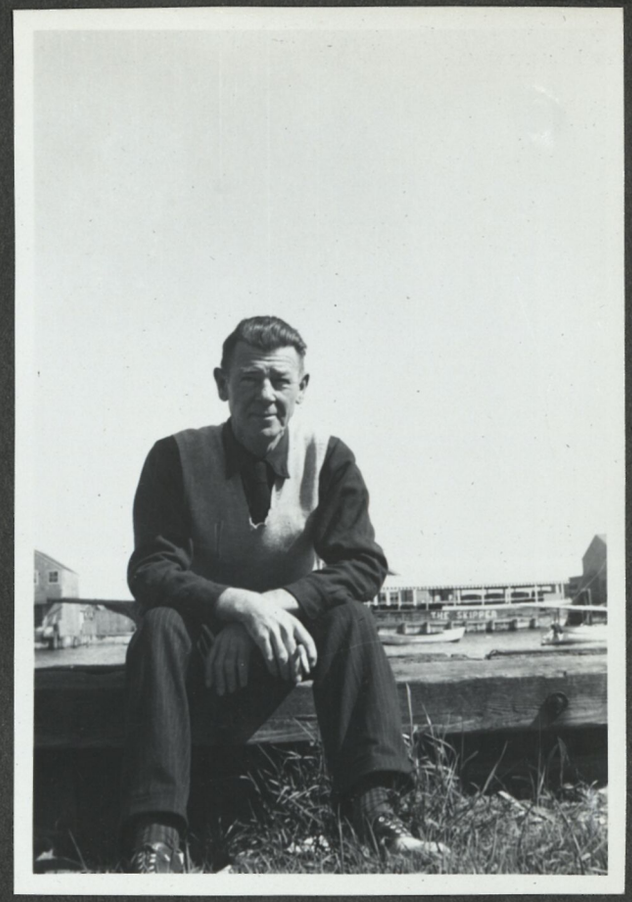
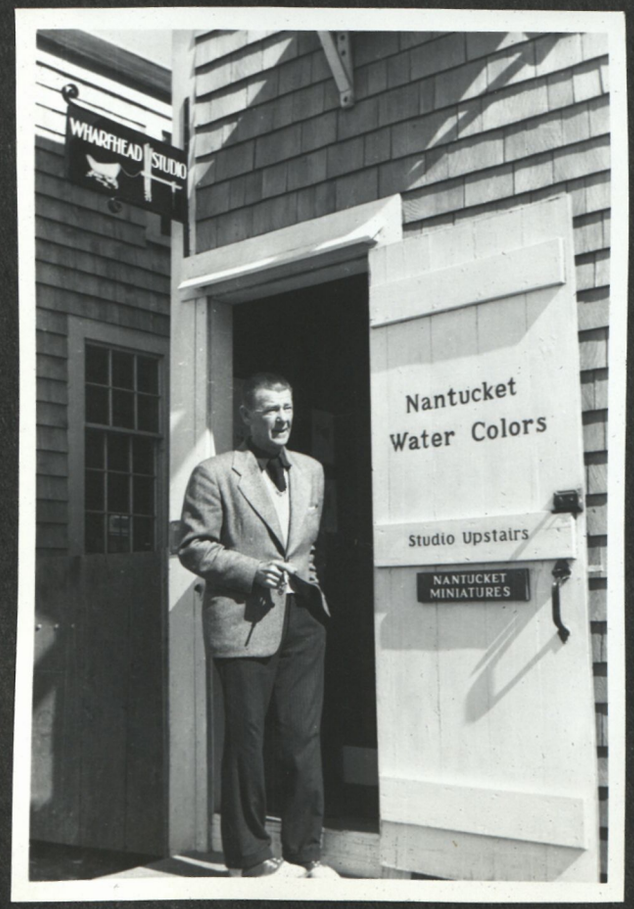





THE SKIPPER


WHARFHEAD STUDIO
Nantucket
Water Colors
Studio Upstairs
NANTUCKET
MINIATURES

studio U
OPEN

WHARFHEAD STUDIO
Water
Studio

Introducing –

Collie Smith and Friend

Pet Raccoons Enliven Two Area Families

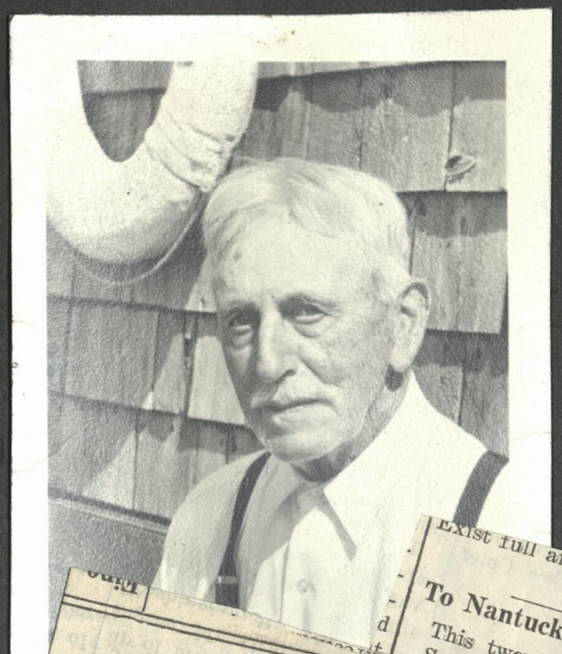
By JOHN J. SCANLON

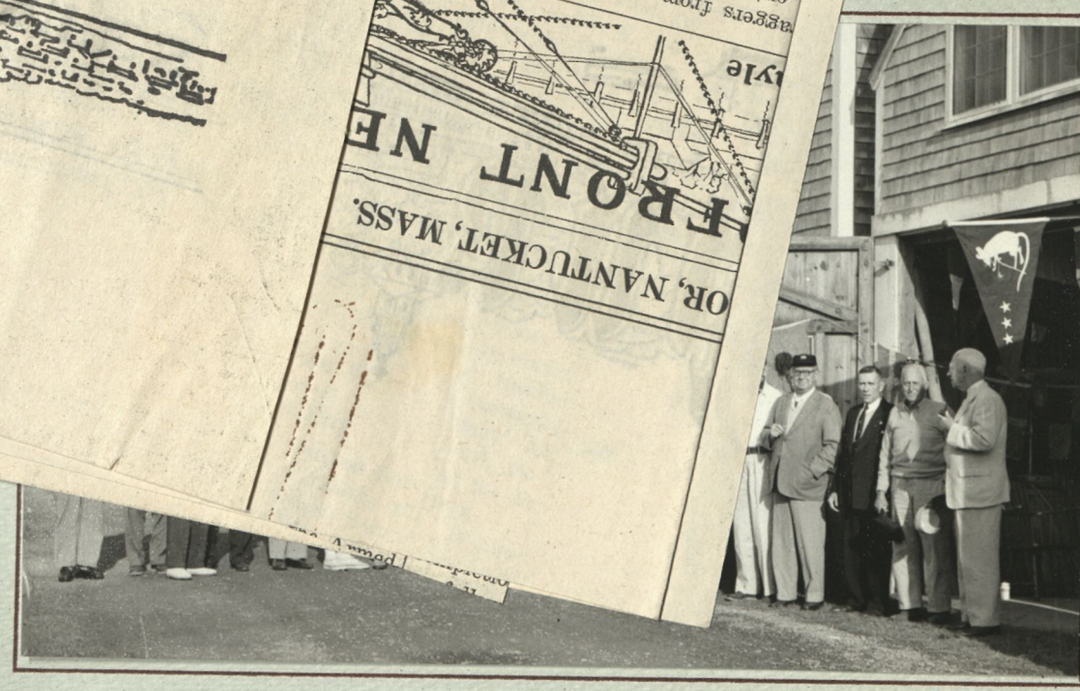
Raccoons, they say, are easily domesticated, and there are two Troy Area families who are beginning to wish the bushy-tailed animals weren't so friendly.

"Stupider" and his sister "Noisy" are currently interrupting the tranquality of the families of Prof. and Mrs. Philip A. Smith of 1549 Tibbits Ave. and Jay Reid Gould of 372 Pinewoods Ave. "Stupider" and "Noisy" are two four-months old racoons which were adopted shortly after their birth by two young gentlemen of the Smith and Gould households.

Collie Smith and Lee Gould, both 14-year-old Troy High School students, adopted the animals and brought them to their homes after the mother coon had met tragic fate in a trap near New Mt. Ida Cemetery.

"Stupider" has caused much more commotion





Wharf Rat Party 1960

The Inquirer and Mirror

VOL. 138 No. 8 Friday, May 22, 1959 THE INQUIRER AND MIRROR, NANTUCKET, MASS. FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 22, 1959 TEN CENTS

Richard C. Beer, Island Artist, Dies at Cottage Hospital

Richard C. Beer, one of Nantucket's most talented and best loved artists, died at the Nantucket Cottage Hospital early Thursday morning. He was stricken with a paralyzing shock Wednesday morning at the Wharfhead Studio, his home on Old North Wharf, and was taken to the hospital shortly afterward.

Mr. Beer was born in Yonkers, N. Y., on October 8, 1893, the son of the late William C. and Martha Anne Alice (Baldwin) Beer. He graduated from Hamilton College, Clinton, N. Y., following which he served in the Consular Service of the United States for 10 years. During this time he represented the United States in Budapest, Hungary; in England, Havana, Cuba, and in Canada.

He first came to Nantucket in 1896 when his family spent the summer in Siasconset and, since that time, missed summering here only while he was in the Consular Service. In January, 1933, he married Miss Doris Riker, who survives him, and who is also a well-known watercolor artist. They purchased the building on Old North Wharf which became their studio and home in 1940. With the exception of four winters, which they have spent here on the island, Mr. and Mrs. Beer spent the winter months in New Orleans, La., Florida, Arizona, or in New Hope, Pa.

Mr. Beer was a writer as well as an artist and contributed frequently to the "Saturday Evening Post" and to "Liberty" magazine. He was a staff writer for "Country Life" and "Art News." Several Nantucket articles written by him have appeared in "Yankee" magazine and his most recent one, about "Whale-oil Bus," an old Nantucket character, is scheduled for publication soon in that magazine.

He was a member of the Artists Association of Nantucket and of the Wharf Rat Club.

(Continued on Page Six)

Armed Forces Day

No matter where you went on Saturday, whether the Naval Facility at Tom Nevers Head, or Brant Point,

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Reunio
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a special police at Sankaty Head Golf Club at the request of Police Chief Wendell H. Howes.

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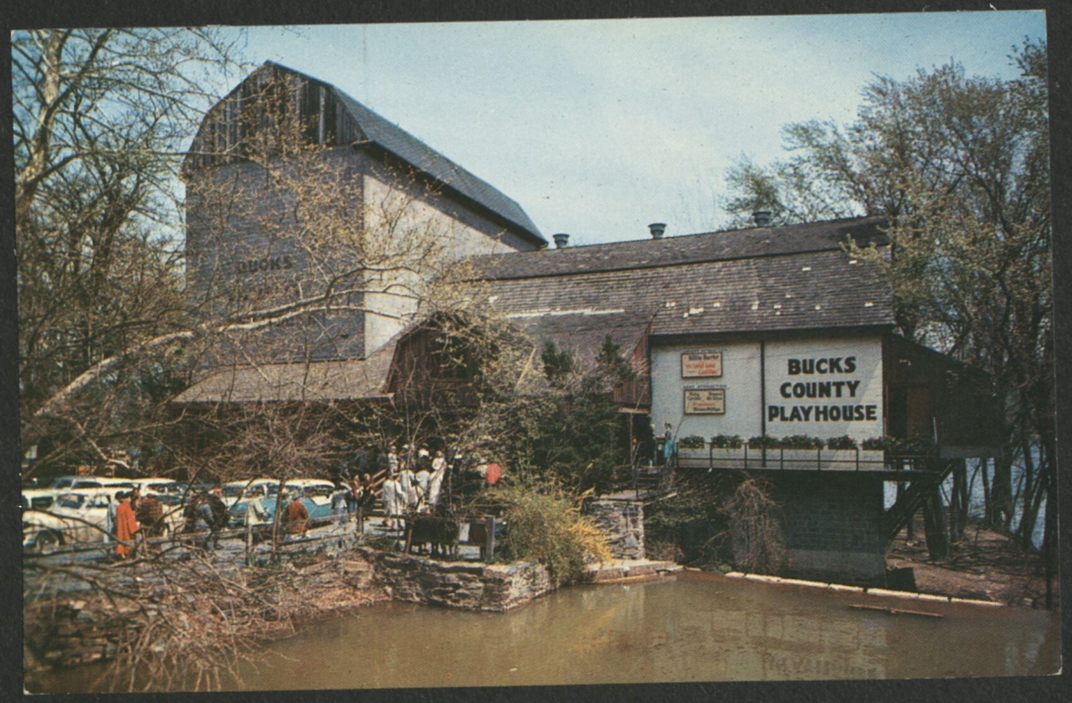
(Continued from Page One)

In addition to his wife, Mr. Beer is survived by a daughter by a previous marriage, Miss Gloria Beer, of Guadalajara, Mexico, and by a sister, Miss Alice Beer, curator of the Cooper Union Museum in New York.

WHARFHEAD
STUDIO

WHARFHEAD
STUDIO
NO PARKING
BETWEEN
THIS AND MAIN
ST. ENTRANCE
STUDIO
OPEN
MORNINGS
10 to 12
AFTERNOONS
3 to 6
EVENINGS
8th, 9th


BUCKS
COUNTY
PLAYHOUSE

TOWN HALL
ONE WAY
TOWN HALL

GALLERY

VARDS
SALOON

TAGE
EPOT
UCSON

ALOHA

Aloha Tower, Honolulu
ALOHA

FOR SALE
CHEAP

THE ART BARGE

FOR SALE
CHEAP

FOR SALE
CHEAP

THE INQUIRER AND MIRROR, NANTUCKET, MASS. FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 22, 1959

THE NEW YORK TIMES,

FRIDAY, MAY 22, 1959.

RICHARD BEER, 65, DEAD

Artist and Writer Painted Nantucket Water-Colors

Richard Cameron Beer of Nantucket, Mass., an artist and writer, died yesterday in Nantucket Cottage Hospital after a long illness. He was 65 years old.

Mr. Beer and his wife, Mrs. Doris Riker Beer, both painted water-colors of Nantucket scenes. He also wronte sketches of old Nantucket days.

Mr. Beer attended Hamilton College and Princeton University. As a young man he served as a vice consul in Cuba, Hungary and England.

Surviving also are a daughter, Miss Gloria Beer of Mexico, and a sister, Miss Alice Baldwin Beer of New York.

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He was a member of the Artists Association of Nantucket and of the Wharf Rat Club.

(Continued on Page Six)

Richard C. Beer, Island Artist, Dies at Cottage Hospital

(Continued from Page One)

In addition to his wife, Mr. Beer is survived by a daughter by a previous marriage, Miss Gloria Beer, of Guadalajara, Mexico, and by a sister, Miss Alice Beer, curator of the Cooper Union Museum in New York.

Richard C. Beer, 65, Nantucket Artist, Dies Of Heart Attack

Richard Cameron Beer of Old North Wharf, former American Consul and an artist and writer, died of a heart seizure at the Nantucket Cottage Hospital yesterday. He was 65.

Mr. Beer, a graduate of Hamilton College, for ten years was American Consul and served at posts in Budapest, England, Havana and Canada until 1926. He was a self-taught artist, and had been painting for the last 20 years, using the watercolor medium. Mr. Beers and his wife, Doris, also an artist, have had a studio here for 19 years.

Mr. Beer was also a writer and contributed to the Saturday Evening Post, Yankee and the now defunct Liberty Magazine. He was staff writer for Art News and for the now defunct Country Life.

He was born in Yonkers, N. Y., the son of Martha A. (Baldwin) and William Beer. He had been a Summer resident here since 1896, at first in Sconset with his parents and later in Nantucket, except for the years he was in the consular service. Mr. Beer was a member of the Nantucket Artist's Association and the Wharf Rats Club.

Survivors beside his wife, Mrs. Doris (Riker) Beer, who had been married 26 years; are a daughter, Miss Gloria Beer of Guadalajara, Mexico; and a sister, Miss Alice Beer of New York City.

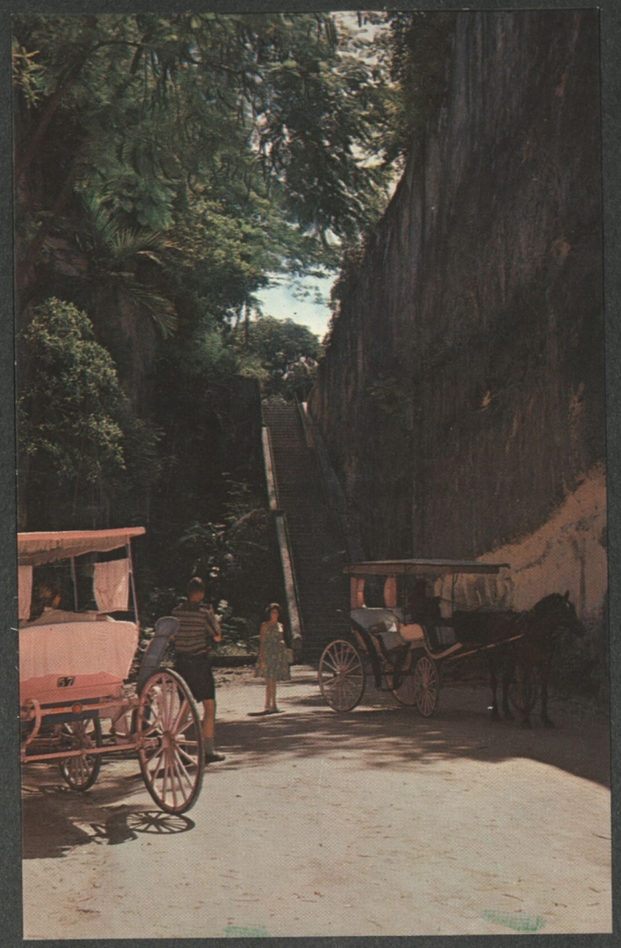
The body is to be cremated.

FOR SALE
CHEAP

BIG ART BUNCH

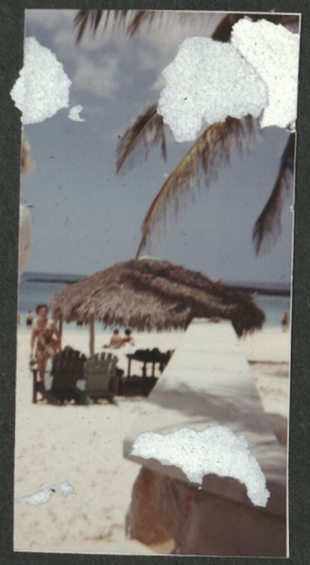
MADELINE

M.SYLVEN NO.2



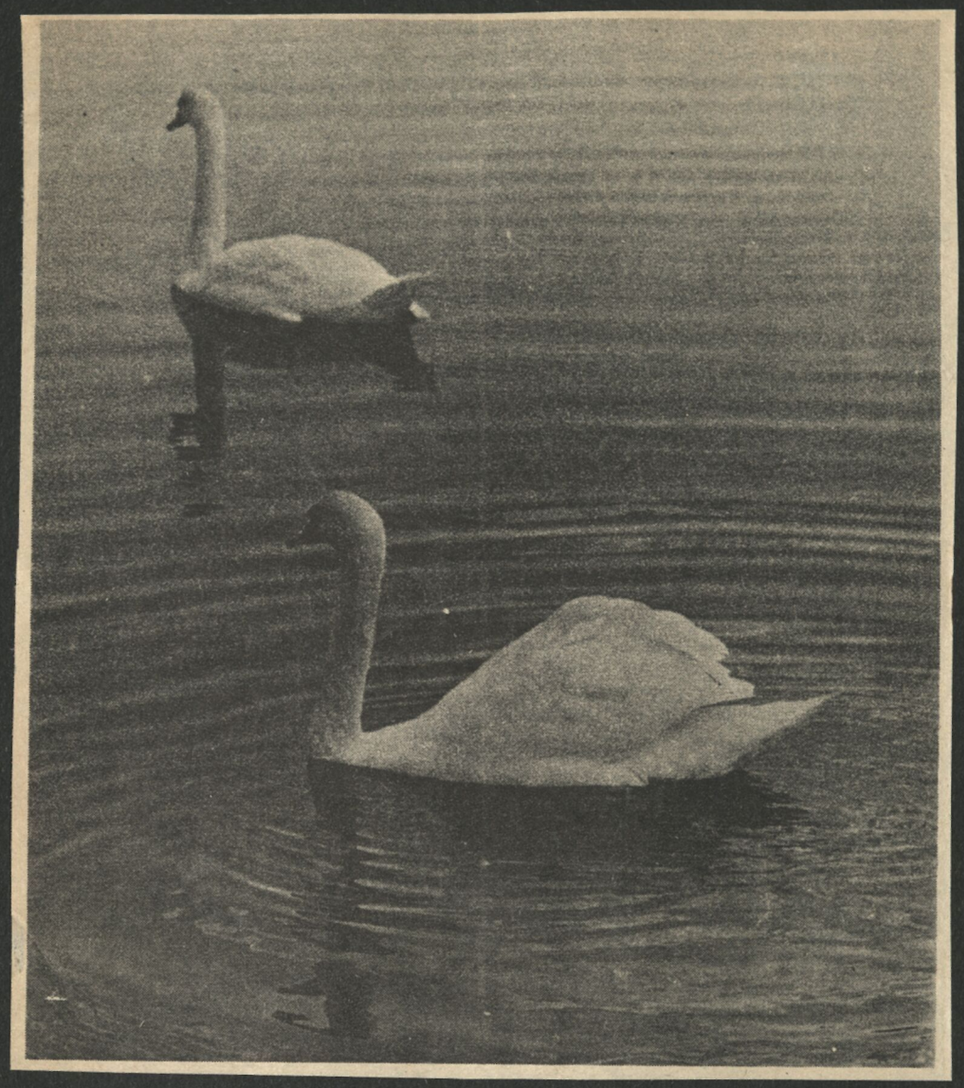
Greetings from
NASSAU

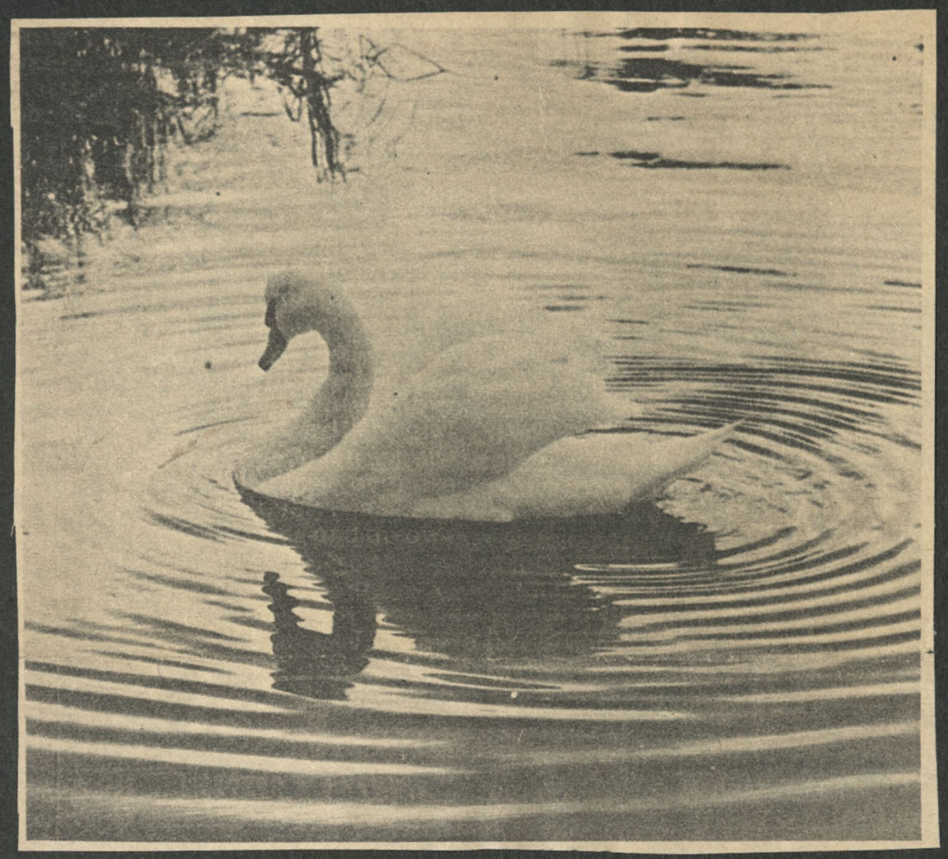
NO PARKING ANY TIME
RP



LITTLE TEE
&
HIS CALYPSONIANS

WHARFHEAD
STUDIO





N.Y. Times - 1-25-60

BASSETT JONES, 82, ENGINEER, IS DEAD

Elevator Designer for Empire State and Other Buildings Illuminated World's Fair

Bassett Jones of 200 East Sixty-sixth Street, an engineer who developed lighting systems and elevators for skyscrapers, including the Empire State Building, died Saturday in St. Luke's Hospital after an operation. His age was 82.

Mr. Jones interrupted his retirement in 1936 to direct illumination for the 1939 World's Fair here. He was known also as an economic theorist, horticulturist and inventor of one of the earliest processes to freeze seafood.

Although inactive in business since 1933, Mr. Jones remained a partner in Meyer, Strong & Jones, consulting engineers at 230 Park Avenue. He had been associated with Henry C. Meyer since 1907. They were joined in partnership later by W. E. Strong in the organization of a firm specializing in the design and installation of elevators and lighting systems.

In directing the development of the elevator system in the Empire State Building, Mr. Jones, as chairman of research committees for the Merchants' Association here and the American Standards Association in Washington, had succeeded in having New York City revise its building code to allow elevators to go faster than 700 feet a minute. The elevators at the Empire State Building move at 1,200 feet a minute.

Conducted Experiments

Conducting his own experiments on Sundays in the elevators at the Chrysler Building, Mr. Jones found that they could be operated safely at 3,000 feet a minute. However, he learned that passengers would suffer discomforts if speeds surpassed 1,500 feet a minute.

Early in his career, Mr. Jones supervised stage lighting for the late Maude Adams and for the Washington Square Players. He was consultant for the illumination for Miss Adams' production of "Peter Pan." In 1912 he designed for Miss Adams the first floodlight units used in a theatre.

His firm later did the street illumination for Syracuse, N. Y., and the lighting systems for the United States Military Academy, the Riverside Church here and the Freer Museum and Corcoran Gallery in Washington.

1940

Bassett Jones

Through his firm Mr. Jones helped to install the first self-service elevator, in the Irving Trust Company building at 1 Wall Street, in 1926. He also designed elevators for the Standard Oil, Bankers Trust, New York Telephone and New York Stock Exchange buildings.

Until about ten years ago, Mr. Jones spent his summers at Nantucket, Mass. His family had established a residence on the island in 1883, six years after Mr. Jones was born in New Brighton, S. I., on Feb. 6, 1877.

Developed Sturdy Pines

On Nantucket he conducted experiments in breeding shellfish and also succeeded in the development of a strain of black Japanese pine that was resistant to wind and salt air. He sold these hardy pines for planting at Jones Beach, L. I., and along the Montauk Highway.

Mr. Jones, who owned several fishing boats, including the schooner Gertrude L. Thebaud, was a former president of the Nantucket Fisherman's Association and understood the problems of the island's commercial fishermen. To assist them he developed a quick-freezing process for fish, which led to his association in 1921 with Charles Birdseye.

Together they formed the General Seafood Corporation in 1923, with Mr. Jones as president. Three years later the organization, which had expanded its deep-freezing process to other foods, became a subsidiary of the General Foods Company.

Mr. Jones, in his work for the 1939 World's Fair, was responsible for making the fair grounds at Flushing Meadows, Queens, look like fairyland after dark. His idea was to make the buildings glow from within instead of having them spotlighted.

As consultant on illumination and chairman of the Committee on Display, he also developed the Fountain Lake display at the Lagoon of Nations, which combined colored lights, water and fireworks in a nightly spectacular.

Aided on Panama Canal

Mr. Jones studied at the Stevens Institute of Technology and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he received a degree in 1898. After serving five years as a workman on various engineering projects, he was sent to Panama by the Federal Government to make studies of metallic corrosion and rust prevention for the Panama Canal.

In 1903 he became a supervising engineer with the predecessor of the real estate firm of Brown, Wheelock, Harris & Stevens. Four years later he joined the Henry C. Meyer electrical-engineering organization.

Mr. Jones was the author of "Debt and Production, the Operating Characteristics of Our National Economy," published in 1933, and "Horses and Apples" (1934), in which he spoofed theories of contemporary economists and the price indexes they reached by various mathematical means.

He leaves his wife, the former Emily Warren; two daughters, Miss Gwenyth Starr Jones and Mrs. William Hoiness, and two grandsons. His children are of his first marriage, to the former Emma Starr, who died in 1920.

A memorial service for Mr. Jones will be held Wednesday at 4 P. M. at the Frank E. Campbell Funeral Church, Madison Avenue at Eighty-first Street.

"Person in Authority Gets No More Consideration Than Clamdigger"

N. E. KINGDOM (Page C-Thirty-nine)

Wharf Rat Commodore

Nantucket Club Has "No Seats for Mighty"

By EARL BANNER

NANTUCKET—Call a man a "rat" down here and he's more apt to be complimented than insulted.

That is, if he thinks you are referring to him as a member of the famed Wharf Rat Club.

The Nantucket Wharf Rats comprise one of New England's most unusual and exclusive societies.

There are roughly 160 of them, men and women too, spread all over the face of the globe during the Winter months — congregating here during the Summer vacation weeks.

The club has no constitution or bylaws—only a motto: "No reserved seats for the mighty."

CLAMDIGGER *Page Seventy-six*

Podunk was located right here in Massachusetts?

Did you ever hear of the Northeast Kingdom? And if so, did you know that it is part of the United States and located right in Vermont?

Did you ever hear of the Wharf Rats Club, and if so, did you know that it was probably the most exclusive club in the world and that it was located in Nantucket?

CLAMDIGGER

Continued from the First Page

Its meeting place is Old North Wharf, just a bit east of Easy st. The club has no dues or membership fees and nobody gets to be a member unless he is asked in. To apply for membership is fatal.

One Summer resident once offered the club $1000 in a bold attempt to buy his way in.

He never made the grade.

The Wharf Rat Club's pennant, designed in the 20s by playwright Austin Strong and Saturday Evening Post artist Tony Sarg—both now deceased, is a triangular blue field upon which is superimposed a white rat, rampant, smoking a churchwarden pipe. This famous pennant has been seen in most of the world's chief ports on any one of many trips around the world in the care of traveling members and once even traveled to Antarctica with one of the earlier Byrd expeditions.

Membership encompasses every facet of the economic scale, all the way from quahauger and beach comber to financier and tycoon. The club claims no restrictions against membership on account of race, religion, color or sex, but a little booklet that appeared mysteriously some years back explaining the functions of the club stated that Summer residents were originally required to undergo a probationary period of three Summers under close observation before becoming eligible for membership.

WHARF RAT CLUB BURGEE

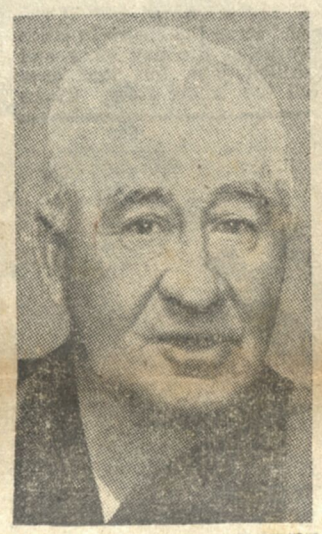
This world-famous burgee has fluttered from the mastheads of ocean liners and Navy vessels in far and strange corners of the world. The design, white, pipe-smoking rat, rampant on a blue field, is credited to the late playwright Austin Strong and illustrator Tony Sarg.

The Wharf Rats was never exactly founded. It just sort of evolved around Sidney Mitchell, Karl Adams, Boston's now retired City Clerk Wilfred J. Doyle and Capt Charles G. Coffin, Nantucket harbor pilot. All but Doyle are now deceased. Capt Coffin was the club's first commodore.

Capt Coffin died in 1932, he was succeeded by his son, the late Herbert H. Coffin who died just before Christmas last year.

(One didn't actually apply for membership. He or she just spent a lot of time hanging around with the known or suspected "rats" in front of the Coffins' "store" on Old North Wharf. One always bade farewell to the commodore before leaving and, if he liked you, he might one day say: "Don't forget to drop around tomorrow. I'll have something for you." The "something" might turn out to be one of the coveted Wharf Rat membership cards—or just some more conversation.)

Anyhow, when the last commodore was laid to rest last December, there were some here bold enough to say: "This looks like the end of the Wharf Rats." Some, even non-members, regretted this because while the club may have never accomplished anything very positive for the good of the island, neither had it ever done anything to offend and it did, after all, lend its own little bit of color to an already storied place.



WHARF RAT HERBERT BROWN of Nantucket, erstwhile carpenter and wharfinger of Old North Wharf, is trying to decide now whether he can afford the "luxury" of succeeding the late Herbert Coffin as commodore of New England's most exclusive waterfront society.

It seems now, anyhow, that the Wharf Rats executive committee has done something about appointing a new commodore to succeed the last Capt Coffin.

Nobody but members of the executive committee know who the other members of the executive committee are, but somehow or other they got together and nominated Herbert Brown of 9 Beaver st, for the job.

Mr. Brown, while admitting that there was some truth to this, refused to say just who it was that apprised him of this development.

★ ★ ★

"Nobody knows who they are except each other—and if I did know, I wouldn't be saying," he told the Globe.

★ ★ ★

Mr. Brown, 67, is a carpenter and new wharfinger of the Old North Wharf.

He is a Wharf Rat of long standing. Mr. Brown is a native of Edgartown who shipped over to this other island at 21 to work for the late Charles Fenton, who was a fish dealer of some prominence. He met and married an island girl and "just stayed on" like many another before him. He has two sons and a daughter, Mrs. Helen Olcott who keeps house for him now in the little house at Orange and Beaver sts. Wilson who works for the Nantucket Construction Company, and Frank, who lives in Charlotte, N. C.

Mr. Brown admits only that he has been approached by members of the "rats'" executive committee. He says he hasn't decided whether he will accept the post or not.

"I'm honored, of course," he explains, "but I don't know whether I can afford the luxury."

The duties that go with the title of commodore are not very strenuous but they do demand a lot of time. The Coffins, father and son, maintained a little store of sorts on Old North Wharf. It was on the broad planks of the wharf section in front of the store that the "rats" met throughout the daylight hours to discuss the affairs of the world in general and Nantucket in particular.

Whenever an incoming steamer brought another "rat" to the island after long months on the mainland, it was up to the commodore to break out the pennants signalling "Welcome, Rat!" and fire three shots on the signal cannon.

Mr. Brown points out that while he would enjoy performing these duties, he still thinks he has to earn a living.

"Anyhow," he added, "It isn't something that has to be decided immediately. I've got to give the question some thought before I make a decision."

"HE WAS AN EXTRAORDINARY MAN. He had a lot of charm and could talk to anybody—about anything." The late Herbert H. Coffin, commodore of the Nantucket Wharf Rat Club, who died last December.

This, of course, is still acting strictly in the wharf rat tradition. Every subject ever discussed by the wharf rats was given a lot of thought.

The little Wharf Rat brochure, something of a mystery by and of itself because—while it looks official as all get out—lists no credits of any kind, has this to say about the club's philosophy.

"We know of nothing more salutary for the person in authority, accustomed to have his words and opinions not only respected but treated as oracular—in short, 'Yessed to death'—than to introduce him into a companionship where he gets no more and no less consideration than the humblest clam-digger and where he finds his pet theories and dissertations on almost any subject, from fishing and boat sailing to world finance, not only disputed but oftentimes refuted. And, unless he can stand the gaff as the fishermen say, he soon finds that he is not fitted for membership in the Wharf Rat Club where nothing counts but innate ability and integrity and natural force of character."

"NO DUES, NO DUTIES—and no seats for the mighty!" These are the tenets of Nantucket's Wharf Rat Club, a usual session of which is pictured here. That's the late Commodore Herbert Coffin, described as "a man with charm who could talk with anybody," running up the club pennant.

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